

TOWN/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
Council Chambers, Beck Municipal Building

Minutes - DRAFT

Present: J. Armstrong, J. Coite, C. Devecchis, M. Hart, A. Kuegler, E. Paterson, N. Silander, W. Simpson, W. Wendt

Staff: M. Capriola, D. Dagon, C. Hirsch, L. Painter, M. Nintean (*Town*); C. van Zelm (*MDP*)

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

1. Meeting Minutes

Due to a lack of a quorum at the beginning of the meeting, meeting minutes were tabled to a future agenda.

2. Updates:

a. *Mansfield Downtown Partnership.* van Zelm provided an update on the second annual winter welcome event being held December 13th from 1-5pm in Storrs Center.

b. *USG.* Devecchis and Kuegler provided an update. USG continues its work to re-establish Guard Dogs (Safe Rides). USG held a Frozen themed community/family movie night on campus which was well received. USG engaged in efforts to encourage student participation in the November 4th election. USG has also been working on sexual assault prevention initiatives and resources.

c. *NextGenCT Impact Study.* Hart provided an update. The study is expected to take 6-9 months to complete. Staff is currently negotiating a contract with the selected consultant, EconSult (ESI). The Town and University will split the cost of the study (appx. a 25%/75% split respectively).

d. *UConn Master Plan.* Hart reviewed community concerns with the draft plan. A number of the Town's policy bodies and advisory committees are preparing comments on the plan. Wendt discussed some of the transportation and parking goals of the plan.

3. Fall Semester Review

Dagon, Hirsch, Painter and Nintean provided an overview of fall semester off-campus activity and its impact on the following town services: Fire and Emergency Services; Planning and Zoning; and Building and Housing Inspection. Topics of discussion included: calls for EMS service; fire safety education and inspections; education and enforcement of single family home occupancies; housing inspections; education and enforcement of ordinances (nuisance, blight, parking, housing). Staff reported that approximately 30-35 single family homes are converted from owner-occupied to rentals per year.

Armstrong reported on the work of the Off-Campus Student Services Office. Topics of discussion included: information and data tracking; education re: community expectations; Incident Response Team (includes Dean of Students Office, Office Campus Student Services,

Mansfield Resident Trooper's Office, UCONN PD, and Residential Life). USG representatives expressed students' frustration with occupancy limits in single family homes.

4. Other Business

Coite stated that all water conservation notices have been rescinded. The EIE for the Honors Residence Hall is underway. Public comments are being accepted through December 18th.

Painter announced that consultants are being interviewed on December 11th for the Gateway to UCONN Corridor Study. The towns of Mansfield, Tolland, Coventry, Willington and Windham were invited to participate.

5. Opportunity for the Public to Address the Committee

None.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maria E. Capriola, Assistant Town Manager
Town of Mansfield